Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 11479 261135Z ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 JUSE-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10 OIC-02 /168 W

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P 261131Z JUL 78 FM USMISSION GENEVA TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2531 AMEMBASSY OSLO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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PASS STR ELECTRONICALLY
TOKYO PASS MIKE SMITH AND TEXTILE DEL

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: TEXTILES: NORDIC DEVELOPMENTS

REF: SEOUL 6545

- 1. RE QUESTION RAISED PARA 3 REFTEL, U.S. TSB REP REGARDS IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT EXPORTING MFA PARTICIPANTS WOULD SEEK TC MEETING TO CONSIDER NORWAY ARTICLE XIX ACTION.
- 2. NORWAY'S ACTION, HOWEVER, WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE CHALLENGED BY SOME EXPORTERS (THOSE HAVING SIGNIFICANT TRADE INTEREST) THROUGH NORMAL GATT PROCEDURES.

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3. CONSENSUS HERE IS THAT PROXIMATE CAUSE NORWEGIAN ACTION WAS FAILURE REACH BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH HONG KONG. NORWAY, IN RESPONSE TO GATT COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS OF JUNE 6, 1978, NOTIFIED GATT OF FAILURE REACH AGREEMENT WITH HONG KONG IN LAST ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS CONCLUDED JUNE 30, 1978. (GATT DOCUMENT L/4690 OF JULY 24, 1978.) NOTIFICATION, WHICH BORE SAME DATE AND

IMMEDIATELY PRECEDED NOTIFICATION OF GLOBAL ARTICLE XIX ACTION, INDICATED THAT BOTH DELEGATIONS HAD EXPRESSED VIEW THAT PROGRESS IN CONSULTATIONS HAD BEEN MADE BUT THAT CERTAIN DIFFERENCES OF OPINION AND APPROACH HAD NOT BEEN RESOLVED; THAT BOTH PARTIES RECOGNIZED THAT "OTHER SOLUTIONS UNDER TERMS OF GATT MAY BE NECESSARY"; AND, FINALLY, THAT POSSIBILITY THAT FURTHER CONSULTATIONS BE HELD LATER IN YEAR WAS NOT EXCLUDED.

4. FACT THAT NORWAY AND HONG KONG HAVE LEFT DOOR OPEN FOR FURTHER BILATERAL EFFORT UNDER MFA WOULD ARGUE THAT NORWAY HAS NOT DEFINITIVELY WRITTEN OFF MFA PARTICIPATION. IT POSSIBLE NORWAY IS FOLLOWING CANADA EXAMPLE USING ARTICLE XIX TO CREATE LEVERAGE FOR CONCLUSION BILATERAL AGREEMENTS SATISFACTORY TO NORWAY. VANDEN HEUVEL

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